



MICHIGAN

To: Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Amanda Fisher, Assistant State Director

Date: March 20, 2014

RE: HB 5335 – Trespasser Liability.

We are writing to ask you to support HB 5335 which would protect business owners from being responsible for injuries sustained to those found to be trespassing on their private property.

Over the years, one of the few bright spots in Michigan's business climate has been our legal system. Vigilance is necessary if we are to keep this advantage from being eroded by trial attorneys and activist groups.

HB 5335 would halt attempts by trial lawyers to loosen long standing case law in regards to trespasser liability. If allowed to succeed, these efforts by trial attorneys will increase liability and exposure for private property owners.

NFIB feels that if someone enters private property uninvited, or even illegally, they should not be entitled to protections and duties of care by the property owners. Without HB 5335, small business owners could be especially vulnerable to this kind of litigation, because they do not have the time or the funds to sustain a lengthy lawsuit against a trial attorney working for a cut of a potential jury award.

Again, we ask for your support of HB 5335.

Thank you for your support of small business.